



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING




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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 28, 2006

TO: Local/Private Elementary School and Public School Academy Principals

FROM: Mike Flanagan, Superintendent 

SUBJECT: 2006-2007 Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools Program
Elementary School Cycle

The Michigan Department of Education has conducted the Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools Award Program for over 23 years. The program's purpose is to recognize highly effective schools throughout the state. The 2006-2007 Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools Award Program is open to both public and private elementary schools who meet extremely high standards and undergo a rigorous peer review. Schools that have met the AYP requirement and believe that they may receive an A or B grade on their report card are eligible to apply.

There are two very good reasons why a school building should consider this process:

1. Self-reflection: Research in the area of school improvement has shown that schools with a common vision are successful in increasing student achievement. The Blue Ribbon process is very effective in assisting schools to focus their efforts and vision.
2. Recognition: The program is designed to provide program analysis, a peer review, and an on-site visitation at no additional external cost to the district. Furthermore, selected school buildings receive state recognition for their efforts.

The major components that qualify a school for state recognition are: 1) the school staff has developed a number of exemplary programs, and 2) the school's performance indicates success.

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The Michigan Department of Education will host a series of Blue Ribbon technical assistance informational workshops on "The How and Why of Preparing a Blue Ribbon Application" that we strongly recommend you attend. Please refer to the schedule of training sessions for meeting details, which is attached. Applications and background information will be available at the technical assistance workshops.

If you have any questions, please leave a message for Rick Jones at (517) 373-4213 or by e-mail at LindemanJL@michigan.gov.

cc: LEA and ISD Superintendents
Elementary Principals Association



**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

**Blue Ribbon Schools
2006-2007 Elementary School Cycle
Training for Application Process**

Training Sessions

April 4, 2006 10 am – 12:30 pm	Southfield Public Schools Southfield Education Center SEC Conference Room 16299 Mt. Vernon Southfield, MI
April 11, 2006 10 am – 12:30 pm	Allegan County Intermediate School District Allegan County Area Technical & Education Center Auditorium 2891 116 th Avenue (Highway M-222) Allegan, MI
April 12, 2006 10 am – 12:30 pm	Eaton Intermediate School District Conference Rooms C, D, E & F 1790 Packard Highway Charlotte, MI
April 27, 2006 10 am – 12:30 pm	Central Michigan University Mt. Pleasant, MI

ON-LINE REGISTRATION

To register for any of the above sessions, please click here:
https://mdoe.state.mi.us/fs_registration/

